## Local Mandate Fiscal Impact Estimate Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2017 Regular Session

**Part I: Measure Information** 

Bill Request #: 1230				
Bill #: SB 222 SCS				
Bill Subject/Title: A	N ACT relating to cons	olidated local governments		
Sponsor: Senator Dan "Malano" Seum				
Unit of Government:	<u> </u>	County Consolidated Local	Urban-County Unified Local Government	
Office(s) Impacted: Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Council				
Requirement: <u>x</u> N	Mandatory Optio	onal		
Effect on Powers & Duties: x	Modifies Existing	Adds New Elim	inates Existing	
Part II: Purpose and Mechanics				

SB 222 would make a number of changes to the governance of a consolidated local government, and to the authorities of its legislative body. Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government is the only consolidated government in Kentucky so SB 222 would affect only that local government.

## SB 222 SCS retains the major provisions of the measure as introduced and makes the following changes:

Section 1 of the Committee Substitute would amend KRS 67C.103 to decrease the minimum number of meetings from two to one per month. It would require that, in filling a vacant legislative council seat, the council follow the recommendation of the caucus from which the vacancy occurred and that the person chosen be from the same council district and political party as the holder of the vacated seat. Section 1 of the Committee Substitute would add the requirement that the political representation of membership on the Government Oversight and Audit Committee be of the same proportion as the political representation of the two caucuses to the entire council. The Committee Substitute would authorize the Government Oversight and Audit Committee to recommend removal of any

officer of or appointee to an agency, board, or commission **and** the removal of any officer or appointee to a department or division of the consolidated local government.

Section 2 of the Committee Substitute deletes the amendment to KRS 67C.105 changing the mayoral term limit in the bill as introduced and would amend the statute to require the mayor appoint a deputy mayor within seven (7) days of taking office, who shall become temporary mayor on a vacancy in the office of mayor, to serve no more than 30 days. The Committee Substitute would establish that the council first shall elect, rather than the Governor appoint, a new mayor within the 30 days, who shall be a resident of the consolidated local government and from the same political party as the holder of the The Committee Substitute would require the Governor to appoint the vacated seat. replacement only if the council failed to elect a replacement within 30 days. The Committee Substitute also would require that the person appointed by the Governor shall be a resident of the consolidated local government and of the same political party as the holder of the vacated seat. Similarly, if the offices of both the mayor and deputy mayor become vacated and the presiding officer of the council serve temporarily as mayor, the Committee Substitute would require that his or her replacement be from the same political party as the holder of the vacated seat. The council would have 30 days to elect a replacement and then the authority to appoint a replacement would go to the Governor. The Committee Substitute specifies that the replacement mayor shall serve for the length of the unexpired term.

The Committee Substitute deletes the amendment of KRS 67C.111 regarding annexation without council approval.

KRS 67C.131 currently allows each legislative council member one (1) full-time staff person. Section 4 of the bill would amend that statute to provide that the two (2) largest political caucuses may hire up to four (4) additional staff for each caucus.

Section 5 of the Committee Substitute would amend KRS 67C.139 to require that appointments made by the mayor or council should reflect the "political, geographic, gender, age and *racial*" diversity of Jefferson County. If the mayor failed to make an appointment, authority to do so would shift to the full council.

Section 6 of the bill would amend KRS 67C.143 to expand the removal authority of the council to now include removal of a mayor, legislative council member, appointee to an agency, board, commission, or officer or official of a department or division of the consolidated local government. Removal of any individual by the council requires a 2/3 majority vote, and would prohibit a removed appointee from serving in that same capacity for five (5) years.

The Committee Substitute deletes the amendment to KRS 424.290 regarding the material the Jefferson County Clerk must publish prior to an election.

Part III: Fiscal Explanation, Bill Provisions, and Estimated Cost

SB 222 SCS would have a moderate fiscal impact on Louisville Metro Government.

Reducing the number of required meetings of the legislative council would represent a minimal cost savings to the consolidated local government.

The impact resulting from the additional staff allowed and required hiring of a Deputy Mayor in SB 222 SCS is the most direct impact of the Committee Substitute since it allows for an increase to payroll and benefit expenses. The requirement that the two (2) major political caucuses may retain separate counsel remains and is a potentially significant, unknown, expense.

The two major political caucuses of the Louisville Metro council currently have assigned staff, though the number is unknown and they are not required by statute. Based on salaries, benefits and health insurance for current senior staff, Louisville Metro estimates that appointment of a Deputy Mayor and four (4) additional caucus staff would cost Louisville Metro Government approximately \$600,000. Those provisions of the bill authorizing the council and the two largest political caucuses to hire their own legal counsel would also have a direct fiscal impact due to the potential for a substantial increase in the cost of contracted legal services paid by Louisville Metro.

**Data Sources:** Louisville Metro Revenue Commission staff; Louisville Metro Council; Louisville Metro Council staff; Jefferson County Clerk's Office

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